

Along the way

"Were not our hearts burning within us as he opened the Scriptures for us along the way." — Luke 24:32

A publication of **sabbath retreats**, the preaching ministry of Father Lou Papes

Lou to preach at St. Peter's in Rome!

As improbable as this may sound, come this Lent, Fr. Lou will be preaching a Mission at Saint Peter's in Rome. Who would have thought? And though it may have the ring of an exquisite fantasy about it, it's nonetheless true: from April 9th through the 12th, Lou will preach at St. Peter's in Rome.

Of course this St. Peter's is in Rome, New York! End of fantasy! (*How long did I think I could stretch out this fantasy?*)

St. Peter Parish has recently been merged with another—both founded in the mid-1800's. In an attempt to bring the parishes together, the pastor decided to have a Parish Mission that would energize their vision of new possibilities.

Another parish in Mullica Hills, NJ, where three churches were merged, will be the site of another Parish Mission at the end of March.

The themes chosen for these parish missions are *Living Sacraments: Being a Sign of What We Believe* and the popular *Families of Faith: The Spiritual Dimension of Human Relationships*. Both seem made to order for merged congregations as the people move from loss to new hope.

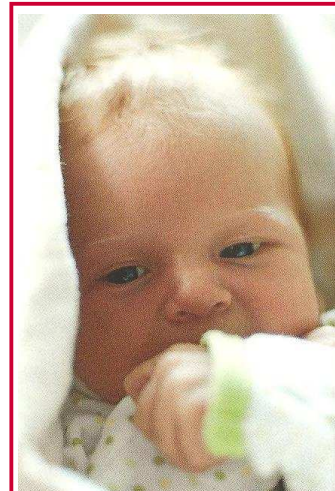
Christmas on the Road

Though the two weeks of Christmas and New Years are vacation time from my work for Food for the Poor, I have on occasion offered to work those weekends if a pastor needs to get away. This allows me to substitute two weeks the following year during which I am free to preach parish missions.

This year I accepted an invitation to celebrate the Christmas weekend with the people of St. John Church in North Charleston, South Carolina. They have no priest pastor, and finding a celebrant for this year's very busy liturgical weekend was a problem for the religious brother who acts as the parish administrator.

For the following weekend, I accepted a request to ring in the New Year with the people of St. Monica Church in Converse, TX. The pastor there will be away and needed a priest to celebrate the six Masses.

I'll miss family celebrations in Cleveland, but the chance to celebrate these liturgical feasts promises to be a fair trade-off.



*The newest addition to the clan:
Allegra Bronte
Born September 20, 2010
to niece Andrea & husband David
and first grandchild of Maryann,
Lou's twin sister*

In Memoriam

This Christmas, my father's side of the family will continue to mourn the deaths of three members of the same family. My cousin Ray Matjasic, Sr., 90, passed away in November, a few weeks after the death of his son Ray, Jr., 65, and four months after the death of his wife Emma, 91.



Ray Matjasic, Sr. — Lou's cousin



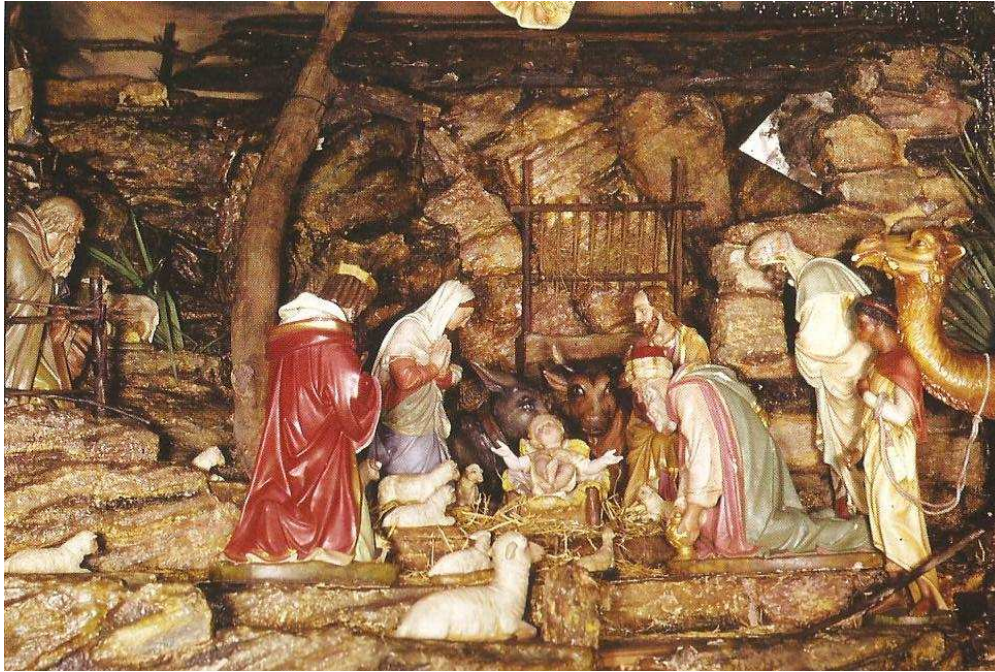
Emma Matjasic

Ray Sr., who resided at the Slovenian Home for the Aged a number of years, had been the chief photographer for the Cleveland Plain Dealer. His many accomplishments in that role were chronicled in the [obituary published in the Plain Dealer](#).

Ray is survived by his daughter Judy (Smith) and grandchildren Heather and Ryan Matjasic and Lillian Smith.

Ray Sr. was the last of our first cousins on my father's side of the family.

Merry Christmas and A Blessed New Year!



Near life-size Nativity scene from the former Saint Lawrence Church, Cleveland, OH circa 1950's

A Christmas Prayer

Loving God,
we praise you
for creating us,
and still more
for restoring us in Christ.
Your Son shared our weakness:
may we share his glory,
for he lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen

Opening Prayer
Mass of Christmas Day

Lou will celebrate the Vigil Mass of Mary the Mother of God on Friday evening December 31 at 4:30 p.m. at the Chapel of the Sisters of St. Joseph, 3430 Rocky River Dr. All are welcome. RSVP: 216-267-7207

Current Preaching Schedule

Food for the Poor Appeals *unless otherwise indicated* † Δ ‡

JANUARY, 2011

January 1-2	St. Monica	Converse, TX
January 8-9	St. Columba	Caledonia, NY
January 15-18	St. Barnabas ‡	Northfield, OH
January 22-23	Mary, Virgin Mother	Hartsville, SC
January 29-30	St. Philomena	Belmont, WI

FEBRUARY, 2011

February 5-6	St. Bernard	Youngstown, NY
February 12-13	Ss. Isidore & Maria Torribia	Addison, NY
February 19-20	Ss. Cyril & Methodius	Shiner, TX
Feb 26-Mar 3	St. Mark Δ	Denton, TX

MARCH, 2011

March 5-6	St. Joseph	Sault Ste. Marie, MI
March 12-16	Holy Spirit Community ‡	Mullica Hills, NJ
March 19-20	Sacred Heart	Worcester, MA
March 26-29	St. Mary †	Berea, OH

APRIL, 2011

April 2-3	Holy Trinity Δ	Springfield, MO
April 9-12	St. Peter Δ	Rome, NY
April 16-17	Palm Sunday	
April 23-24	Easter Sunday	

‡ Families of Faith Parish Mission

Δ Living Sacraments Parish Mission

† Disciples for the 21st Century Parish Mission

Sunday Homilies online each weekend at www.sabbathretreats.org